

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUSSEL 00058 120832Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-06 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 /110 W

-----126457 120840Z /17

R 120810Z JAN 78

FM AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3381

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USEC BRUSSELS 2901

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

UNCLAS DUSSELDORF 0058

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEWT, GW, UR

SUBJECT: USSR BUYS MORE GERMAN STEEL PIPE

1. THE WEST GERMAN CONSORTIUM OF MANNESMANN HANDEL AG AND
THYSSEN STAHLUNION AG HAS RECEIVED A NEW ORDER FROM THE
SOVIET TRADE ORGANIZATION, V/O PROMSYRIOIMPORT FOR LARGE
DIAMETER GAS LINE PIPE FOR USE IN EXTREMELY LOW TEMPERATURE
AREAS.

2. THE NEW ORDER INVOLVES THE SHIPMENT OF 380,000 TONS OF
PIPE WITH AN OUTSIDE DIAMETER (00) OF 1,420 MILLIMETERS
AND AN ESTIMATED TOTAL VALUE OF DM 500 MILLION. THE
PIPE WILL BE PRODUCED AT MANNESMANN'S MODERN PIPE
MILL AT MUELHEIM DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1978.

3. AS IN THE CASE OF PREVIOUS GERMAN LARGE DIAMETER PIPE
SALES TO THE USSR, FINANCING WILL BE PROVIDED WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF AN EXISTING CREDIT AGREEMENT BETWEEN A
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PAGE 02 DUSSEL 00058 120832Z

CONSORTIUM OF WEST GERMAN BANKS HEADED BY DEUTSCHE BANK
AG, FRANKFURT, AND THE SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE BANK.

4. THE NEW ORDER REPORTEDLY WILL ENABLE MANNESMANN
TO AVOID SHORTTIME WORK IN ITS STEEL AND LARGE
DIAMETER PIPE MILLS FOR AT LEAST THE FIRST QUARTER
OF THIS YEAR.DUX

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STEEL, STEELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DUSSEL00058
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780017-1155
Format: TEL
From: DUSSELDORF
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780173/aaaacjhb.tel
Line Count: 62
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a5388be4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3789425
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USSR BUYS MORE GERMAN STEEL PIPE
TAGS: EEWT, GE, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a5388be4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014